

# HELMET

*July / August*  
*2020*



## St Helen's Church

www.sthelensalvs.co.uk  
Rev David Moss 415190

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Judith Heybyrne 616725

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Harry Griffiths 612140  
Elaine Lee 419322

## Children's activities -

contact Tracey

## Alveston Methodist Church

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## Contact Steward

Christine Dugdale 413097

## Stewards

Peter Jones 412912  
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*Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Helmet editors or committee.*

*With thanks to Ken Pearce for the front cover*

We welcome articles and news of interest from individuals and groups within the Parish of Alveston. Please send articles, digitally when possible, to alvestonmag@gmail.com

Or deliver to the post box at 1 Beech Close, Alveston. BS35 3NH, marked 'for Helmet'.

## EDITORS:-

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Contact Elaine if you are interested in advertising (elainelee46@virginmedia.com)

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Once again another month in lockdown has passed, and although technically and legally things are easing there are still many in our community who don't feel safe out and about. So please do continue the good work of passing at a distance and looking out for your neighbours' needs. With this in mind we are still not printing and delivering the 'Helmet' and will be reviewing things at the beginning of August to make our decision regarding the September edition.

Once we do decide to return to print we will be needing you to send in your articles and photos of all the goings on in the village so that those who have been shielding without internet access can get to see them.

This month's cover is on an optimistic theme of summer sunshine and sports. Having had some lovely weather we growers are not going to complain about the rain, and according to the forecast there are more sunny days ahead. But before you rush to book your holidays do sit down with a cuppa and read your village magazine. Compiled by and for our village.

Hence, as well as news and a history article from the churches, we have warnings and a dashboard flyer from Neighbourhood Watch, an appeal from Alveston Cricket Club, and an appeal and offer of funding from the Rotarians. There is an up to date article on our allotments and some mothy nature notes. We have repeated the news from the Thornbury area museum but have breaking news (as of July 1<sup>st</sup>) from the library.

Hopefully it won't be too far into the Autumn before we will have reports from our local groups. Enjoy your summer whatever you find yourself doing. We'll be back one way or another in September.

Diane Barnard

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**SOME OTHER LOCAL  
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Christ The King Roman Catholic Church, Thornbury	Mass every Sunday 8:30 and 11:00
United Reformed Church, Thornbury	Sundays 11 am and as advertised
Quaker Meeting, The Chantry, Thornbury	Sundays at 10:30
Thornbury Baptist Church	9:15, 11:00 and 6:30 most Sundays, check the website
Tytherington Baptist Church	Sundays at 11:00

## A LETTER FROM ST HELENS' VICAR

### "Black Lives Matter"

The social unrest that followed the pulling down of Colston's statue in the centre of Bristol unsettled many. In response to The City Centre protests, The Bishop of Bristol, Vivienne Faull, asked the churches to challenge and address institutional racism.

Living where we do, the "Black Lives Matter" campaign seemed a little distant from Alveston's comings and goings. I imagined that issues relating to black slavery would have never touched our community. How wrong I was!

Alveston and the surrounding villages have in fact a proud history of fighting for the rights of black people. In 1793 at Elberton Manor Farm Joseph Sturge was born. Joseph a local farmer spent his life campaigning for the emancipation of slaves and when the act freeing slaves was finally passed in this country in 1833, he travelled to the USA to continue his campaign. Joseph Sturge's work is commemorated in a statue in Edgbaston and his portrait now stands in the National Gallery.

One of the oldest graves in St Helen's Churchyard is that of a black woman. Born in Black River, South West Jamaica after slavery was abolished she came to Alveston to work for the Bush Family. Her gravestone reads, "Elizabeth Snipe, born in Jamaica 1841 and died at "The Grove", Alveston 11<sup>th</sup> May 1905 and for 43 years was a faithful servant." Elizabeth, I am told was very much part of village life, she became affectionately known as Granny Snipe.

I rather proud to live in a community where Black Lives have mattered. Where people past strived within their historical context for equality for all. The Bible teaches that each of us bear the image of God and all should be treated equally. (Romans 3.28.) Sadly, the protests in Bristol brought to light the fact that this is still not the case, racism, oppression, inequality and injustice still goes on. Let us be inspired by our forebears, to continue the good work they started. Let us work together so that institutional racism should definitely be a thing of the past.

David Moss



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## CATS (CLIMATE ACTION THORNBURY AND SURROUNDINGS)

is a part of Sustainable Thornbury and was formed in response to the October 2018 report of the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) which told the world of the need to become Carbon Neutral within just a few years if we are to ward off the worst impacts of climate change.

Locals may wish to get involved in sub-groups which it is hoped will be able to run in some form or another on energy, wildlife, food, waste, transport and public engagement.

Sadly, the church will not be opened before September at the earliest, although this will be reviewed in line with Connexional guidance. We all want to meet in worship and fellowship but we cannot open at this time with all the restrictions affecting the premises.

We cannot comply with the ongoing work and cleaning that would be needed to meet the Government documentation before welcoming people into the church building safely again.

For the time being the church buildings will remain closed for all groups, activities and worship.

The Church, however, as the people of God, remains open. We can share in worship in our homes through online services and prayer and by 'watching over one another in love'.

We can all encourage each other by being good neighbours and friends to those around us.

#### Lockdown

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31.

'Thank you NHS, carers and key workers', was painted neatly in blue on the edge of the bench. Beneath was scrawled, 'and birders'. The wooden bench is set facing the River Severn on the trail between Oldbury and the site of the old Windbound. The only sound on that warm June morning was the song of the skylark, on the wing, hovering over the meadow behind the footpath.

Robert Browning said it perfectly in his verse, when he wrote:

The year's at the spring  
And day's at the morn;  
Morning's at seven;  
The hill-side's dew-pearled;  
The lark's on the wing;  
The snail's on the thorn:  
God's in his heaven  
All's right with the world!

It's a rare moment to feel such peace. Lockdown has enabled a period of slowing down in our activities.

Time to watch the hundreds of moths and butterflies fluttering by the grasses and wild flowers. Time to watch the geese and wading birds feeding from the river mud at low tide. No sign of any eagles!

We are fortunate to sail on the Severn. It looked like a millpond today, but it is a most treacherous waterway. Beware if you are caught out on the outgoing tide. It is easy to go aground on one of the many sandbanks. You must stay there until the tide turns and floats you off! Stay alert, as Boris would say! Stay safe!

Of course, if you are a carer, key worker or NHS worker, idling along a river bank is not an option. It's a wearisome life, day after day tending to the needs of seriously ill people who can't be left alone. Putting them first every day and night, even though you love them dearly (as a carer), is exhausting. Some of the residents of Alveston who need constant care are wonderful examples of patience, cheerfulness and tenacity, as must be their carers. The frail and infirm people may never be able to run or walk again but they are the ones who put their trust in the Lord, who strengthens their spirit so they can be shining examples to all of us.



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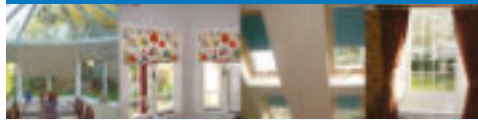
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## ST HELEN'S CHURCH NEWS

I can't believe July is already here and with more lock down restrictions lifted we are now be able to open the church from the 4<sup>th</sup> July for public worship within the confines of social distancing!

This means Church will still not be as it was before for quite a while, but at least we will be able to come together and worship in some way.

We are intending to hold a service at 10.30am every Sunday morning at St Helen's commencing on 5<sup>th</sup> July. We will also continue to open the church for private prayer between 2 and 4pm on Wednesdays.

Please continue to check our website for updates [www.sthelensalvs.co.uk](http://www.sthelensalvs.co.uk) or the board in the precinct.

We will endeavour to continue with our 'On Line' Church services found on RevsRurals You Tube. There will still be many who will not feel comfortable or are unable to meet together in larger groups, even socially distanced.

As the pandemic eases and there are fewer restrictions we would like to remind you that we are still here to support and help you so please feel free to contact us if you think we can be of any help whatsoever. Telephone numbers are on the inside front cover.

In the meantime, take care, stay safe and please follow the restrictions.

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As food prices rise, and we contemplate the impact of our globalised food industry on greenhouse gas emissions, stop buying the stuff and then throwing it in the bin.... If food waste was a country, it would be the third biggest emitter, apparently – that's more than aviation..... (Nikki Jones)

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## IT'S NOT CRICKET - OR IS IT?

We have an optimistic quintessentially English summer theme on the front cover, with thanks once again to Ken Pearce, but as yet it is not clear if matches will be played this season.

Thornbury Cricket Club has made it's home on the fields by the Ship for almost 150 years, with more than one Doctor Graces being involved. The pavilion was built in 1963 and is a popular community gathering place, not just for cricket focused activities.

You can read more on <http://www.thornburyroots.co.uk/sport/cricket-facts/>

Alveston Cricket Club, established in ca 1953, plays on the Jubilee Field, Greenhill and welcomes players and supporters from throughout the area. We have an appeal from them elsewhere.

## JUST FOR A LAUGH - submitted by Ken

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## FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

### Home Security in Hot Weather

As summer temperatures rise – new opportunities arise for burglars and scammers. To keep cool we open windows and doors to encourage breezes to flow through, but this also can encourage unwelcome ‘opportunists’ to come in as well !!

#### **So do remember to:**

Avoid leaving downstairs windows open after you go to bed

If you’re out enjoying the garden, make sure your front door is locked and any accessible windows are secure

Always close and lock windows and doors when leaving the property – even a small open window could entice a burglar

Ensure that any side entrance is secure, locked and not easy to climb over, even when someone is at home

Always pack away tools after a day tending to your garden or doing some DIY and make sure they’re locked away and out of reach

Do not leave valuables on display through windows. Keep car and house keys out of sight and away from windows and doors

#### **Similarly, if you have a car:**

Do not leave valuables in sight of any potential thief. Remember to close windows and lock the car when you park

It’s a good idea to leave a notice on your dashboard.

It not only informs any potential thief – it also reminds you.

To download and print off as many dashboard notices as you wish, go to the <https://www.asnwa.org/downloads> and select 'Dashboard Notice'

Lastly, the hot weather makes everyone a little dozy and a bit ‘slow’. This is exactly what online and telephone scammers like best! So, do be extra vigilant and attentive – don’t get caught out!

PLEASE FEEL FREE to pass this on to everyone you know

– so that we all can keep SAFE and SECURE!!



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## THORNBURY ROTARY COVID-19 APPEAL

The Rotary Club of Thornbury has recently launched a new campaign to support small community groups and charities within the Thornbury area that are finding it difficult during the COVID-19 pandemic. The current situation puts a significant strain on these organisations that are struggling to carry out their valuable work at a time when funding is not easy.

President Graham Cook said, "Thornbury Rotary has been supporting the local community for 49 years and we are here to help now when local volunteer groups and charities have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. These small organisations play such an important role within our community and deserve our support. Many have been starved of their traditional sources of funding and are finding their resources stretched by unprecedented demands on their services. We are delighted that the amount raised by end June is over £2,500 and we have awarded two grants so far. The first was to Kington & District Scrub Hub. This is a group of 70 volunteers, producing scrub uniforms, scrub caps, bags, hairbands with buttons and washable masks. To date they have produced over 3000 items which have been donated to local health centres and care homes, including Almondsbury, Alveston and others, as well as care

facilities in Thornbury, Beech house, Grace Care Centre, Henderson ward, St Mary's St. Surgery and Thornbury Health Centre. The second grant was awarded to 'Krunch South West'. This charity has adapted the services they offer to support young people and the grant will help them extend the activities and mentoring services offered during the school holidays. Both recipients of the grant carry out amazing work in the community".

All donations will be paid into the Thornbury Rotary Trust Fund, a registered charity, eligible for Gift Aid. From the Fund, Rotary hands out grants of up to £500 to organisations that request their support, subject to the application being successful. The number and size of these grants depend on the generosity of the community and the amount donated. Thornbury Rotary Club is inviting applications for grants from local organisations and will pay out all the money received to assist with the fight against the effects of COVID-19. Donations to the appeal will go to those most in need in the local community.

Any organisations wishing to apply for a grant can visit Rotary's website: [www.thornburyrotary.org](http://www.thornburyrotary.org).

Anybody wishing to support this appeal can do so by making a donation through Rotary's Virgin Money Giving page: [www.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/thornburyrotary.COVID-19](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/thornburyrotary.COVID-19), or by visiting the website above. Thornbury Rotary is hugely grateful for any donation, large or small, that will help to support the community. They can be followed on Facebook and Twitter: @ThornburyRotary

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South Gloucestershire Council enquiries & emergencies 01454 868009  
(Minicom 01454 868010). Text Service 07950 080111

Social services Emergencies 01454 866114.

Adult Care/Mental Health 01454 868007.

Children and young People 01454 868008.

Benefits 01454 868002 (Report suspected fraud 0800 073 7377)

Council Tax 01454 868003

Environmental Health and Trading Standards 01454 868001

Housing 01454 868005.

Leisure and Libraries 01454 868006.

Leisure centres 0300 333 0300

Planning & Transportation 01454 868004

Street Care 01454 868000, [streetcare@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:streetcare@southglos.gov.uk) (dog warden,  
rubbish and recycling etc)

For more information [www.southglos.gov.uk](http://www.southglos.gov.uk)

## UTILITIES

Electricity network 0845 7331331;

Gas leak – 0800 111999

Police/Crime – non emergency call 101.

Sign up for community alerts [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/account](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/account)

Local policing team – [www.police.uk/avon-and-somerset/CN212/](http://www.police.uk/avon-and-somerset/CN212/)

Neighbourhood Watch – register at Ourwatch [www.asnwa.org/](http://www.asnwa.org/)  
registration;

Fraud prevention & alerts [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) 0300 123 2040

Crimestoppers - Report anonymously 0800 555111.

<https://crimestoppers-uk.org>

Health – NHS advice for non emergency situation 111 (24 hours).  
[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk).



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The following groups and organisations meet regularly in normal circumstances :

St Helen's Pre-school Little Stars at St Helen's School: Mon-Fri 8:50-15:30  
Toddler Group, Alveston Methodist Church Hall: Mondays 9:45-11:45 (term time)  
Orthopaedic Pilates, CTK: Mondays 9:30am from 6<sup>th</sup> April (07977632003)  
Fitness Pilates, Alveston Youth Centre: Tuesdays 11:00  
Thornbury & S Glos Amateur Radio Club, The Chantry: Wed 7:30pm (413 177)  
Luncheon Club, Alveston Methodist Church Hall: Thursdays 2:15  
Zumba Fitness, St Helen's School: Thursdays 6-6:55 pm and 8:05-9pm  
Fitness Pilates, St Helen's School: Thursdays 7-7:55 pm  
Thornbury Chamber Players: MC: fortnightly Thurs 7:45-9:45 pm  
Sharon Phillips School of Dancing, St Helen's School: Mondays; Jubilee Hall: Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat; Alveston Youth Centre: Fri and Sat.  
Play and Praise, Alveston Methodist Church Hall: 1st and 3rd Fridays 2:15-3:15  
Breakfast Club, Alveston Methodist Church Hall: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays 10:00

Please pass on your annual programmes and details of future events (deadline 1<sup>st</sup> of the month) to Tony Houghton, 2 Beanhill Crescent, BS35 3JG. They can be accepted by email to [Diaryhelmet@btinternet.com](mailto:Diaryhelmet@btinternet.com)

**PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO COVID-19 EVENTS HAVE CURRENTLY BEEN CANCELLED OR POSTPONED. WE HAVE AGAIN DECIDED NOT TO PRINT THIS MONTH AND HAVE PUBLISHED AS LATE AS POSSIBLE BUT NEWS STILL GOES OUT OF DATE QUICKLY. WE SUGGEST THAT YOU CHECK WITH THE ORGANISERS IF YOU ARE UNSURE.**

**KEEP SAFE, WASH YOUR HANDS, LOOK OUT FOR NEIGHBOURS AND FOLLOW GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES. Beware of scam emails and DON'T FORGET THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIAL DISTANCING.**

**Alveston Repair Cafés are booked for 12<sup>th</sup> September and the 14<sup>th</sup> Nov at St Helen's Church Alveston between 10am and 1pm.**

Some of you may have shopped for Fairtrade items at the United Reform Church in Thornbury on a Saturday morning. I have been informed that they are not open in July, but if they don't open in August it may be possible to order for a delivery. There are such essential items as cookies, chocolate, olive oil and beverages - and toilet rolls.

Contact Robin on 01454632064

**THORNBURY'S first FITNESS FESTIVAL**

**WAS TO BE HELD**  
Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sun 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020 -  
Armstrong Hall Complex

**But has been postponed until January 2021**

For more information please contact Natasha Johnson on 0781006872 or by email: [natashaleschinski@gmail.com](mailto:natashaleschinski@gmail.com)

The Severnvalle Art Trail artists have been displaying their talent online.

The Thornbury Arts Festival has also been cancelled. It was to have been the launchpad for one of the U3A (University of the Third Age) projects by Thornbury U3A Writers, a book of some of their recent stories:

Literate Allsorts.

Sadly it is not possible to bring this book to the attention of local residents by means of the Festival but it can be bought from Amazon, with any profits going to the Bristol Children's Hospital. The ISBN is 9798627705149

## Chapel Closure, Baking Bread and Milling

What do a chapel closure and the milling of flour and baking and selling of bread have in common? And what connection do they have to the **Alveston Methodist Church** built in 1971?

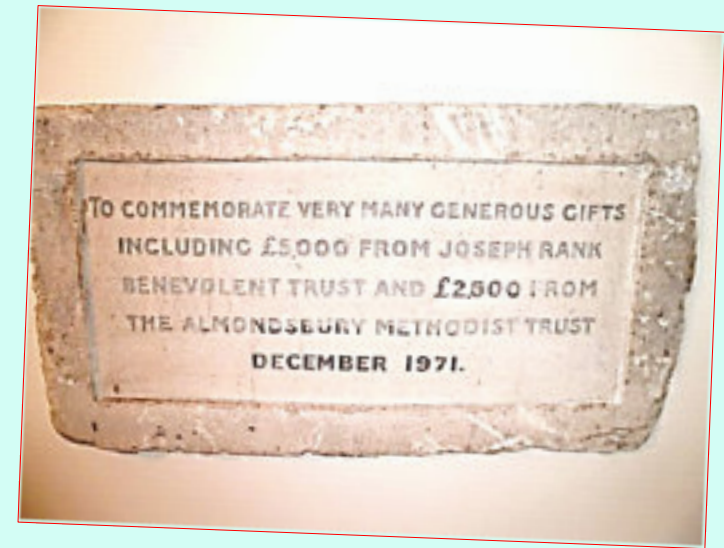
They both resulted in substantial grants towards the new Church opened in December 1971 and whose 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary we will be celebrating next year.

The plaque on the wall by the foot of the stairs to the balcony records the fact that the present Church building was built thanks to many generous gifts. It mentions, in particular, donations of £5,000 from the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trust and £2,500 from the Almondsbury Methodist Trust.

The Almondsbury Methodist Trust was created when the Almondsbury Methodist Church building was sold in the 1960s. It was formed to support various local Methodist ventures and contributed towards the costs of the major extension of the Thornbury Methodist building.

An even more substantial gift, of £50,000, was given by the Joseph Rank Benevolent Trust. The present Trust was created in 2002 to amalgamate a number of the different charities established by Joseph Rank and those established by the Joseph Rank Trust after his death.

Joseph Rank was a miller who established Joseph Rank Limited which was once one of Britain's largest flour milling and bakery companies. It comprised an empire of flour mills, bakeries and retail outlets. He set up a number of grant making trusts to further the aims he had supported throughout his life as a passionate Methodist. The trusts that he created represented a practical expression of his strong Christian beliefs, his desire to advance the Christian faith and to help the less fortunate members of society. After his death, in 1943, his family and friends continued his work taking responsibility for distribution of the money he had made and given to those he felt compelled to support.



If anyone can remember the old chapels or the opening of the new building or has any photographs of them which you are happy to share, please let Christine Dugdale (01454 41309) know and help us to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the present Greenhill Methodist Church building in 2021.

### **Do you have sewing skills?**

A group in Kington are regularly producing 350 to 400 Scrubs items per week but they need more help. If you can help, or you know someone who can, please contact Angela Chapman

On: [Angela195005@gmail.com](mailto:Angela195005@gmail.com)



## AND SOME MODERN BREAD MAKERS:-

### Volunteer work during COVID-19 lockdown lights an entrepreneurial fire for two uni students

TOCKINGTON – While biking emergency contact information to homebound elderly on behalf of the Tockington Parish Council, Jack Jacob and Jade Weerawardena couldn't help thinking that people in lockdown would appreciate something that made them feel good inside during these difficult times. When they discovered they had a surplus of bread flour around the house, they thought focaccia, an airy Italian bread made with yeast and olive oil and flavoured with rosemary from our garden, could be the answer.

"Bread is so comforting, definitely something everybody needs right now," said Jack. "Jade and I wanted to create an offering that would give people a little pleasure in this period of uncertainty and help us develop some business skills."

In May they launched JJ Focaccia. Their first customer came from their volunteer network, and since then they have had orders for both pickup and delivery from members of the local community.

JJ Focaccia is homemade and comes in two sizes: a small round or signature extra large. Hygienic precautions are strictly observed. JJ Focaccia is available for collection or delivery (by bike, right now).

"Lockdown has been tough. I come from a real food family, and just the smell of focaccia lifted spirits in our household, and we hoped it would do the same for others", said Jade.

They announced their business with "outdoor advertising" and Jade created the website. (<https://www.jjfocaccia.com/>).

Jack and Jade met during during Lower Sixth at Clifton College. Jack, a New Yorker, has completed his first year at University of Bristol where he's doing the mLibArts course. Jade has completed her first year of the Business Management course at University of Southampton.



**For more information  
please contact Jack on  
07984 650630.**

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## THORNBURY & DISTRICT MUSEUM NEEDS YOUR ASSISTANCE WITH A HISTORY PROJECT

Thornbury and DISTRICT Museum, yes our District is very important! We have been closed to visitors for a while now, but still keep a check on the museum and are having great success with our Facebook page.

We have a new project, launched on Facebook, to capture contemporary history for a change.

**PLEASE HELP US GATHER AND KEEP THE LOCAL HISTORY OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID 19) 2020**

We are experiencing one of the worst times in our lives, just as people did during WW1 and WW2. Coronavirus (Covid19) 2020 will also become history and in future schoolchildren will learn about it.

As a museum, we have recognised responsibility to gather, document and preserve a record of this unique and awful time for Thornbury and the surrounding District. We invite anyone wanting to participate to keep notes or a diary and/or photos of anything that you, your friends or family experience, good and bad, during this time. This could relate to absolutely anything with a local flavour as national information will be well documented. But please do not send photos of anyone without their permission. You can send us information at any time, or wait until this episode in our history has passed.

By email: [museum.thornbury@gmail.com](mailto:museum.thornbury@gmail.com) or by post to the usual address.





Important: By submitting information, the museum will assume that you give permission for the material to be used in the future. This could be in print or on-line, in one of our exhibitions, or saved in our archive. When the museum re-opens, we will start to go through all that we have received from everyone and decide how we can best use it.

Meanwhile, do visit our Facebook page which can be found on our museum website home page, scroll down to find the blue icon on the left-hand side. <http://www.thornburymuseum.org.uk/>

### Out Walking?

We also received a request for help from Reg King, one of our volunteers, to photograph and record stone stiles in the area. Many have already been snapped, but with all this outdoor exercise being enjoyed, maybe you will come across one which has been overlooked. Stone stiles have not been systematically recorded and protected by the Historic Environment Record, so this will form a valuable archive too. You can send photos to the same email address and we will save and forward them to Reg.

[museum.thornbury@gmail.com](mailto:museum.thornbury@gmail.com)



Here's one, but it's in Frampton Cotterell, with only slight apologies for including the canine. (DB)

## To Members and Friends of Alveston Cricket Club

As you know, we have been part of the Alveston community since 1953. In recent years our aim has been to develop even stronger ties with the village and surrounding areas and to encourage more members to the club.

We have seen the introduction of Allstars cricket for children aged 5-8 , and although delayed we will launch Dynamos for 8-11 year olds in the club soon.

Despite the glorious weather recently, with the Covid-19 pandemic, we are yet to see cricket in 2020 , but that doesn't mean we have stopped our work.

The new outdoor practice area will be ready within the next few weeks and we are still hoping that cricket will be available very soon, in some format during July.

We are asking for your help though. The cost of running the club has continued, but unfortunately we have not seen the membership or income from matches thus far.

We as a club are raising money from our own membership to support the club during this difficult period. would be local community can help as well, through a donation to the club. A crowdfunding scheme has been set up to allow current and past members, families and friends to help.

I have detailed this crowdfunder scheme below. Anything you can do to support and help, will be used to invest into the future development of the club.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/alveston-cricket-club-covid-19-support>

I do hope you are all safe and well and thank you so much for your help and support. Please do pass this message out to anyone you feel may be able to help.

## HERE IS SOME ADVICE ON SCAMS

The National Cyber Security Centre has set up a Suspicious Email Reporting Service. Forward dodgy emails to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). If you have a hunch it might be a scam, report it and help them to act quickly.

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES

Lots of them advertise in the Helmet  
There's not much you can't buy at The Parade.  
Paul Jones greengrocers are taking orders for deliveries .  
There should be less risk of infection and silly scrummages.

**Alveston Parish Council** information can now be found at <https://alveston.org>

Please visit the website for all the latest information.

Contact Alveston Parish Council on: 01454 413550  
email: [clerk@alvestonpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@alvestonpc.co.uk)



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## ALVESTON ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

The rainy days towards the end of June were a welcome respite from the chore of watering mentioned last month. However it has encouraged slugs and snails to be more active affecting young plants and ripening strawberries in particular.

Now is the time for bush fruit such as black and red currants, gooseberries and blueberries to be picked, not the easiest or most pleasant of tasks in the gardening calendar being both back-breaking and – in the case of gooseberries - very prickly!. However, we can look forward to eating these delicious fruits fresh (think summer pudding and cheesecake), preserving in jams or freezing for a taste of summer later in the year.

In the vegetable plot, beans are coming into flower, onions and garlic are being lifted, and roots such as beetroot and carrots will soon be ready. Digging of early potatoes has begun and at the moment there seems little sign of blight (fingers crossed).

It is great to see several plots brightened by a mass of flowers, and to see small apples and pears starting to develop.



If you would be interested in joining us, please contact the clerk to the Parish Council Graham Smith on [clerk@alvestonpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@alvestonpc.co.uk) to ask for your name to be added to the short waiting list



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## LIBRARY SERVICE UPDATE

Thank you for your continued patience and support as we gradually reintroduce limited library services \*by appointment only\*...

From Monday 6 July we are able to offer limited services at selected libraries \*by appointment only\* in line with the latest public health advice. The libraries will look and feel quite different, as changes have been made to keep users and staff safe. Full details are on our dedicated webpage: [www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges)

The limited services from 6 July \*by appointment only\* are: Click and Collect service: order items to borrow from 4 libraries: Kingswood, Emersons Green, Yate and Thornbury. Online ordering & collection timeslot bookings are now live - full details: [sglibraries.eventbrite.com](https://sglibraries.eventbrite.com)

Free computer use and free WiFi for an hour a day at 5 libraries: Patchway, Kingswood, Emersons Green, Yate and Thornbury. Advance booking essential – full details: [www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges)

Not a member yet? No problem

☆ Library membership is free - new members can join online at [bit.ly/joinLW](http://bit.ly/joinLW)

Please enter your email address where prompted on the form for greater control of your account, including easy PIN reset. Where the form says “Pin” and next “Re-enter Pin” it is asking you to choose your own 4-digit PIN and then to re-enter it to confirm your choice.

Don't know your PIN? No problem

☆ Select 'Forgot my PIN' on the login screen at [www.librarieswest.org.uk](http://www.librarieswest.org.uk) and an email with reset instructions will be sent to the email address we hold on your record.

Our free digital services are still available 24/7 to library members:

Unless you already have an RB Digital account to access our digital magazines, you will need to create one using your library membership number or Temporary ID if you have recently joined online. When prompted select 'South Gloucestershire' as your library.

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Silly Squad, Summer Reading Challenge 2020 \*online\* [bit.ly/S1llySquad](http://bit.ly/S1llySquad)

Research your family history with Ancestry Library Edition [bit.ly/Ance5try](http://bit.ly/Ance5try) (free access to Ancestry from home has been extended until 31 July 2020)

And join in our weekly Lego challenge here on our Facebook page. Look out for the new theme each Friday morning!

For further updates please check our dedicated webpage [www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges)

We will also post updates here on Facebook and on Twitter [www.twitter.com/southgloslibs](https://www.twitter.com/southgloslibs)



## How Alveston is coping with the lock-down

During the Covid-19 Lock-down Alveston has been blessed to have many people helping the older or less mobile residents in our lovely village and area. One very special group of young volunteers was quickly organised back in March and has been helping many of us since then. The Community Action Group will run errands and help out in many ways. As the emergency began over 30 young volunteers added their names to the list compiled by Carly Rudrum-Baker. They delivered information notes to about 50 streets in our village to tell residents that they were willing and able to help with shopping etc. and soon the scheme was in action. Street Wardens were quickly set in place throughout Alveston. Carly has reported that they are collecting prescriptions, doing shopping from local shops and on-line for those who find this difficult. They are also dog-walking and grass-cutting for a couple of elderly residents. Helmet would like to say a big "Thank you" to these wonderful people. If you or someone you know needs their help please contact your Street Warden or call Carly on 0781 309 5565

Helmet would also like to mention that many local residents have said they are so grateful for the caring services provided by local shopkeepers who have been delivering fruit and vegetables, meat, prescriptions and other essential items in and around Alveston. It has been a tremendous help for many old and new customers. Thank you everyone for really pulling together. Many are making sure they ring round to check friends and neighbours are not in need. Just to have a chat to someone when you haven't seen or spoken much that day helps time to pass more pleasantly. We can all benefit from keeping in touch. The churches are providing on-line services including as many members as they can with modern technology such as Zoom and YouTube.

Other residents have been helping by using skills to sew Hospital "scrubs", face masks and generally keeping an eye on elderly and/or vulnerable neighbours. We have seen many front lawns with piles of garden items, toys etc. Free to take away! It has been an ideal opportunity for many to have a "Sort Out".

Please let us know of any other special groups of people who are helping during the Covid-19 lock-down and remember to Stay Safe and Stay Alert and whatever else we are told to do either by government, local councils or our own common-sense.

Elaine Lee email: [elainelee46@virginmedia.com](mailto:elainelee46@virginmedia.com) or telephone 419322 if you need more info.

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THORNBURY LIBRARY If you register your card for our Open Access System, and attend an induction, you'll be able to access library facilities throughout the town.

See the Breaking News pg 42

**There will occur  
between staff closing time  
and Open Access starting**

### STAFFED TIMES

Monday	9.30am-5.30pm
Wednesday	9.30am-5.30pm
Thursday	9.30am-5.30pm
Friday	9.30am-5.30pm
Saturday	9.30am-12.30pm

### OPEN ACCESS (Unstaffed)

Everyday	8.00am – 7.30pm
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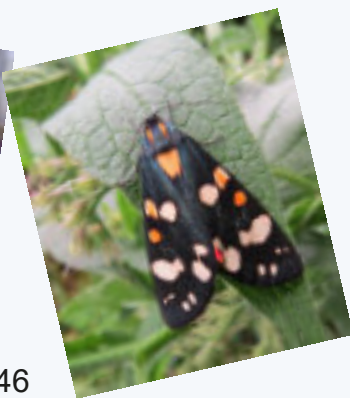
Being Lepidoptera, moths are classified in the same Order of the animal kingdom as butterflies but there are about 800 species of macro moths and over 2500 in total in the British Isles. Adults are useful pollinators, often at work at night, and it is the night flying types that we used to see in large numbers attracted to our car headlights. They will also fly in through open windows and can be trapped using light to identify what's around. Whilst mainly night flying there are many also out in the day time, some, beautifully coloured, often mistaken for butterflies.

It is the caterpillar that is often the 'foe', as can be seen this year on the decimated tree on the green on Down Road. This is probably an ermine moth which creates the silk for protection. Other moths can be found as large soft green or brown visitors, nestled in the base of spinach beets and other garden crops, which they nibble on. They may only be seen by the dollops of poo! I once watched parent birds feeding them to babies, having found them in my garden. Different types also nibble the leaves of a variety of trees and shrubs and worm their way inside the fruit.

The pictures are of the ermine on the tree on Down Road, a scarlet tiger and the caterpillar of a type of hawkmoth, all taken in Alveston.



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We have a request for issues 157 – 177 (about 1985-87) and 180-209 (1988 to end 1990) and. 233-255 (April 1993-June 1995) if anyone has a store in their loft.

We need your articles by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month preceding publication. Send to

**alvestonmag@gmail.com**

Or post to 'Helmet Magazine', 1 Beech Close, Alveston, BS35 3NH.

Deadlines –

September edition August 1<sup>st</sup> for distribution on or by August 25th

*Although we hope to be in print for the September edition this may not happen as what we can do obviously depends upon Covid-19 progression, government advice and availability of personnel*

## NOTICEBOARD

### Helmet dates 2020

We collate/deliver on the LAST Tuesday of each month

The deadline is the 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous month. We are still taking our usual breaks for August and January

**Coroana Permitting**

Edition	Deadline	Collation
Sept	AUG 1	AUG 25
Oct	SEPT 1	SEP 29
Nov	OCT 1	OCT 27
Dec	NOV 1	NOV 24

### Some Relevant Websites:

<https://butterfly-conservation.org/moths>

[ukmoths.co.uk](http://ukmoths.co.uk)

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Updates from Neighbourhood  
Watch pg 18-19

Rotary Club and C19 pg 20

Useful contacts, pg 23

Local history of our district –  
Alveston Methodist Church pg 26

Some modern day bread makers  
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A request from the district museum  
volunteers pg 33, 35

News and an appeal from Alveston  
Cricket Club pg 36

Alveston Allotments update, pg 39

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Nature Notes - Moths pg 46

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